

An Analysis of Students' Perceptions toward the Role of English:

The Case of Students of SMA Kristen 1 & SMA Theresiana

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ABSTRACT

English is an international language and became a lingua franca. Almost every country in the world use English in order to follow the globalization. English has a very big influence to the other countries in many aspects like language, culture, education, identity, lifestyle, social and professional life, and communication. Of course, various perceptions and attitudes appear from many sides toward it. This paper has a purpose to find out the perceptions of the senior high school's students about the importance of English in four categories. The data were collected from the questionnaires that were given to 128 students grade XI SMA Kristen 1 and SMA Theresiana Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia. Likert scale questionnaire was used to know about students' perceptions. The data were analyzed using manual mathematical system. The finding shows that majority of the participants gave positive attitudes toward the importance of English for academic success, international job opportunities, international communication, and global education.

Key words: *Students' perception, English role, English use, English impact.*